(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir. Both countries have officially also recognised on a number of occasions that differences between India and Pakistan have to be resolved by the two countries themselves.

(b) Government's principled and consistent position is well known. The entire State of Jammu & Kashmir is an integral part of the Indian Union. A part of the territory of the State is under the forcible and illegal occupation of Pakistan. India is committed under the Simla agreement and the Lahore declaration, to resolve all issues with Pakistan peacefully through bilateral discussions.

Construction of godowns by private parties

*77. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO:
SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines for private parties to construct godowns for storage of foodgrains for Government;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have been paying rents for the space not availed by it in the private godowns; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) In accordance with the National Policy on Handling, Storage and Transportation of Foodgrains, the private sector is to be encouraged to construct conventional godowns on Build-Own-Operate (BOO) basis in which the foodgrains procured by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) would be stored and preserved and for which storage and handling charges would be provided. The construction of godowns under the BOO scheme is yet to commence.

If and when (owing to increased offtake of foodgrains), the storage capacity of certain godowns is not fully utilised, the payment of rent is required to be made, as per the Agreement with the private owners concerned. When the godowns are no longer required, the same are de-hired, as per the Agreement concluded in this behalf.

Court cases against defaulter companies

†*78. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 5071 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 8th May, 2003 and state:

(a) the authority by which the instruction for monitoring the speedy disposal of the cases of regional offices of EPF organisation were issued and on which date;

(b) the number of cases disposed off from the date of issuing the order till date and the amount of money recovered as a penalty from the defaulter companies during the last three years, year-wise: and

(c) by when all the cases would be disposed off?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SAHIB SINGH VERMA): (a) Instructions have been issued from time to time by the Employees Provident Fund Organisation. Comprehensive instructions were issued *vide* letter number LC/4(5)99/Misc./PR/82447 dated 28.02.2001. Subsequently, in pursuance of the directions conveyed by Secretary, Labour in the meeting held on 02.05.2002 in regard to close overview of court cases, further instructions were issued by the organization *vide* letter No. LC/4(16)02/Court Cases/12143-68 dated 20.05.2002.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.